



Tempe Art in Private Development



Rio West Business Park

1851 W. Rio Salado Parkway

David Brant

Aquifer Revealed, 2005

River stone, concrete, aluminum
and ground blue glass terrazzo

Artist Website:

www.idea-ashtreestudios.blogspot.com

Photo: Robert Moore

Description: The concept of *Aquifer Revealed* is two-fold. The first is the celebration of the development site's proximity to the Rio Salado through the interpretation of river geology, water and plant life. The second is the artistic acknowledgement of the restrictions placed on the development site. Due to the proximity to Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport, no water features were permitted as they might attract birds. The piece features abstract shapes to imply the flow of water over spillways and onto a dry river stone water basin. The abstracted, unearthed cobbled aquifer is contained in a wall and columns of ground aluminum. While real water will attract real birds, faux water attracts faux birds. A series of abstract, wavy-winged birds, with a wingspan of three feet, are located atop each light column and a single bird atop the main element. Each bird is mounted on a steel spring allowing slight movement in the desert wind. *Aquifer Revealed* earned the Rio West Business Park team a Beautification Award for Art in Private Development Excellence in 2007.

Artist biography: Since the 1970's, Brant has been designing and fabricating sculpture and architectural installation art throughout the western United States. He was formally educated in landscape architecture and trained in a variety of artistic arenas. For 20 years prior to the formation of the company IDEA, Brant held responsible positions with design firms throughout Phoenix and Southern California, and was a founding partner in a major southwest landscape architecture firm. Brant is responsible for all aspects of IDEA's projects, utilizing his award-winning experience in project theming and story rendition through landscape architecture, urban design, architecture, public art and graphic design.

Funding: This project was funded by the individual developer, Suncor Development Company, as a requirement of Tempe's Art in Private Development Ordinance.